



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF WINDSOR

Dear City of Windsor Partner, Sponsor, Donor, Community-Builder:

Since 2014, the City of Windsor, through its Cultural Affairs Office, has administered the Arts, Culture & Heritage Fund (ACHF) grant program (www.ACHFWindsor.ca). The program invests in the soul of our City by providing financial assistance to locally developed arts, culture and heritage projects that provide exciting, surprising and meaningful opportunities to strengthen our creative community. Funding is currently set at \$118,000 per year, and awarded in two rounds of \$59,000 per funding round. This funding stream supports the City's priority to build a strong and stable creative community, contributes to a prosperous economy, and helps make Windsor an amazing place to live, work, create, visit and invest.

Since launching, over \$830,000 in grant funding has been awarded to nearly 400 individual arts, culture and heritage projects in Windsor, across many diverse genres including visual arts, performing arts, film, music, literary arts and storytelling, podcasts, and important projects that support diversity, inclusivity, heritage and the celebration of humanity while positively impacting quality of life across our community. Completion of funded projects often results in products, programs and initiatives being available for public engagement. These projects develop unique cultural resources; encourage creators to lay down roots and continue to create in Windsor; make arts, culture and heritage central to our lives; increase public access to the arts; and celebrate diversity.

As our program continues to evolve, we are reaching out to those individuals, organizations, businesses and corporations that have expressed an interest in supporting arts, culture and heritage through strong partnerships with the City of Windsor. Such partnerships allow the City and the private sector to leverage resources, including funding, to have the greatest impact on quality of life for our residents. With that in mind, we have identified two possible opportunities for partnership between you and the City of Windsor, in connection with the ACHF grant program.

- 1. Register to be a Patron of Arts, Culture & Heritage in Windsor:** By registering, City staff in Culture & Events will provide you with information on funded ACHF projects that are seeking additional funding support to realize their project goals and increase community impact. We will facilitate a meeting between you and the ACHF grant recipient to see what possibilities exist.
- 2. Become an ACHF Partner:** By becoming an official ACHF partner, you, your organization, business or corporation, will have the opportunity to donate a funding amount to the ACHF funding stream. This will increase the available funding in a given round, thus increasing opportunities for additional creators and projects to receive funding. The ACHF program's volunteer Jury will adjudicate funding, and City staff in Culture & Events will work closely with you to determine the best fit for your donation in any given funding round.

You are receiving this invitation because your support – both financial and in-kind – of past City initiatives has had a significant and positive impact on the City of Windsor. This is a unique and innovative opportunity to direct that support to Windsor's arts, culture and heritage creative community, and we would welcome the opportunity to work with you in this way.

As a supporter of the City's Arts, Culture & Heritage Fund (ACHF) grant program, your name or that of your organization, business or corporation, will be connected to the results of this program, now and into the future. We welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss this exciting investment opportunity directly.

Please reach out to us at your convenience at culturalaffairs@citywindsor.ca, or contact any of the staff listed below. For now, thank you for taking the time to consider this proposal.

Sincerely,

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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

Please visit www.ACHFWindsor.ca to find:

- ACHF Mission, Vision, Program Objectives and Key Priorities
- Information on all funded projects from 2014 to present
- Success stories and highlights
- Juror applications to serve on the volunteer jury adjudicating funding applications

ACHF PROGRAM TESTIMONIALS:

"Since I moved to Windsor ten years ago, I have been so impressed by the number of artists and writers. Windsor needs to be known for their artists and their creativity... but to create, artists need to receive support. Funds like ACHF are so important to the life of artists and consequently the city." -ACHF recipient, 2016

"Thank you so much! This grant will help this show immensely so I truly appreciate the support of the City on this particular passion project. There is so much amazing hidden talent in this city... a lot for Windsor to be proud of." -ACHF recipient, 2018

"The experience as an ACHF juror is fulfilling... it is so encouraging to see so many artists and arts organizations continuing to pursue wonderful projects... I would recommend this experience to anyone in the arts, culture and heritage sector, and I am so appreciative of the work done by City Administration that brings the dreams of these artists into our reality. Windsor is a much better city for it... Windsor is a mecca of creativity." -ACHF juror, 2021

"Each round of funding provides us with a clear illustration of the importance and need for arts and culture in our community. Being able to play a role in giving both emerging and established artists the opportunity to continue to work in Windsor is a wonderful feeling and a great way to give back to our community." -ACHF juror, 2022